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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

OF

ABERYSTWYTH

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT 1960



MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

Dulyn Thomas, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

D.G. Bowen, A.R.S.I., M.A.P.H.I.

Chairman
1959/60

Councillor S.H. Snow

Chairman
1960/61

Councillor T.J. Pugh

28 members including the Chairman

Committees dealing with Public Health Matters

(a) Finance, Health and Housing Committee

Chairman
1959/60

Councillor T. Islwyn Lloyd

Chairman
1960/61

Councillor J.C. Morgan

All members of the Council

(b) Water and Sewerage Committee

Chairman
1959/60

Councillor E.J. Evans-Vaughan

Chairman
1960/61

Councillor A.R. Aldridge

All members of the Council

Clerk of the Council: Cyrus Evans, Esq.,
 Council Offices,
 Chalybeate Street,
 Aberystwyth.

Telephone: Aberystwyth 270

The Chairman of the Council, the Chairman of the Finance,
Health and Housing Committee and Members of the
Aberystwyth Rural District Council.

PREFACE

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Health
Department for the year ended 31st December, 1960.

The number of registered live births was one hundred and twenty-eight. This figure shows a decrease of forty-three on the figure for 1959, but even so the birth rate for this district expressed as per thousand population is considerably higher than for the county as a whole, and also higher than the figure for England and Wales. There was one stillbirth and there were six infant deaths. No mother died as the result of childbirth.

The number of registered deaths was one hundred and thirty-eight, a decrease of twenty-five on the figure for the previous year. This figure is well above the National average and is most probably due to the large number of elderly people living in the district. Twenty-seven persons died of cancer and sixty-four persons died of heart and circulatory diseases. Eight persons met accidental deaths and six persons died of tuberculosis. This is the highest figure of deaths caused by tuberculosis for many years.

Forty-six cases of measles were notified, one case of scarlet fever and seven cases of dysentery. There were five new cases of tuberculosis - all being over the age of thirty years.

A more detailed account of the work of the Health Department will be found in the ensuing pages which include a section prepared by Mr. D.G. Bowen, the Council's Public Health Inspector.

No new houses were built by the Council during the year. The demand for Council houses remains and it is hoped that the Council will be able to resume its building policy during the coming year. Progress was made on the Llanbadarn Fawr sewerage and sewage disposal scheme. The completion of this scheme will be a great step forward in safeguarding the health of the inhabitants of the area.

I wish to thank you as a Council for the interest which you show in Public Health matters.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	140,728
Population (Census 1951)	10,966
Population (Registrar General's Mid-Year 1960)	11,040
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1960	£83,265
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1961	£84,010
Sum represented by a penny rate 1960/61	£318
Estimated sum to be obtained by a penny rate 1961/62	£323

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

		<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Number of registered live births	Leg.	124	62	62
	Illeg.	4	2	2
Number of registered stillbirths	Leg.	1	1	-
	Illeg.	-	-	-
Number of deaths of infants under 1 year	Leg.	6	4	2
	Illeg.	-	-	-
Number of deaths of infants under 4 weeks	Leg.	4	3	1
	Illeg.	-	-	-
Number of deaths of women ascribed to childbirth		-	-	-
Number of registered deaths			138	
Areal comparability factor for births			1.17	
Areal comparability factor for deaths			0.77	

Vital Statistics for the Area
with comparative figures for Cardiganshire and England and Wales where applicable.

	Aberystwyth Rural	Cardiganshire	England and Wales
No. of live births - male	64	362	
No. of live births - female	64	375	
Total number of live births	128	737	
Live birth rate per 1000 population	18.12	13.83	17.1
No. of stillbirths	1	20	
Stillbirth rate per 1000 live and stillbirths	7.75	26.42	19.7
Infant deaths (under 1 year)	6	19	
Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births - total	46.88	25.78	23.2
Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births - legitimate	48.39	22.79	
Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births - illegitimate	-	85.71	
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1000 live births - (first four weeks)	31.25	17.63	
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	3.13	4.74	
Maternal deaths including abortion	-	-	
Maternal mortality rate per 1000 live and stillbirths	-	-	
Total number of deaths	138	740	
Death rate per 1000 population	19.02	13.89	11.5

Area comparability factor for births: 1.17

Area comparability factor for deaths : 0.77

CAUSES OF DEATH

<u>Registrar General's</u>		<u>Number of deaths</u>		
<u>Code Number</u>	<u>Causes of Death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	4	2	6
2	Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3	Syphilitic disease	-	1	1
4	Diphtheria	-	-	-
5	Whooping cough	-	-	-
6	Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7	Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8	Measles	-	1	1
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	1	4
11	Malignant neoplasm lung, bronchus	3	1	4
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	4	4
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1	1
14	Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	10	4	14
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-	1
16	Diabetes	-	2	2
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	9	12	21
18	Coronary disease, angina	14	6	20
19	Hypertension with heart disease	1	4	5
20	Other heart disease	8	5	13
21	Other circulatory disease	2	2	4
22	Influenza	-	-	-
23	Pneumonia	1	6	7
24	Bronchitis	-	1	1
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	1
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	-	2	2
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-	2
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31	Congenital malformations	3	-	3
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	6	13
33	Motor vehicle accidents	3	-	3
34	All other accidents	5	-	5
35	Suicide	-	-	-
36	Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
TOTAL		76	62	138

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following is a list of the notifications of infectious disease, other than tuberculosis, received during the year.

Cholera	-
Diphtheria	-
Dysentery (amoebic and bacillary)	7
Encephalitis	-
Erysipelas	-
Food poisoning	-
Malaria	-
Measles	46
Meningococcal meningitis	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-
Paratyphoid fever	-
Plague	-
Pneumonia (acute primary and acute influenzal)	-
Poliomyelitis	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-
Relapsing fever	-
Scarlet fever	1
Smallpox	-
Typhoid fever	-
Typhus fever	-
Whooping cough	-

TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows the sex and age distribution of the new cases notified during the year.

AGE GROUP	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 - 1	-	-	-	-
1 - 2	-	-	-	-
2 - 4	-	-	-	-
5 - 9	-	-	-	-
10 - 14	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	-	-	-	-
20 - 24	-	-	-	-
25 - 34	1	-	-	-
35 - 44	1	-	1	-
45 - 54	-	-	-	-
55 - 64	1	-	-	-
65 - 74	-	1	-	-
75 +	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	1	1	-

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

In addition to the general medical services provided by registered medical practitioners the following ancillary services are provided by the local health authority:-

- (a) An ante-natal and post-natal clinic is held fortnightly at Aberystwyth. In those areas not readily accessible from Aberystwyth, expectant and nursing mothers receive medical advice from their own doctors.
- (b) Infant welfare clinics are held fortnightly at the following centres: Taliesin, Borth and Llanbadarn, and weekly at Aberystwyth.
- (c) The domiciliary midwifery service is carried out by the district nurses who are also State Certified Midwives.
- (d) One health visitor covers the northern half of the district and another the southern half.
- (e) Home nursing is in the hands of the district nurse.
- (f) Poliomyelitis vaccination is carried out by the local health authority and immunisation against diphtheria is performed partly by the former and partly by the person's own medical attendant.
- (g) No ambulance is stationed in the Rural District. The headquarters of the ambulance service are situated in Aberystwyth from which four ambulances operate.
- (h) Arrangements for the prevention of illness consist in periodic talks and advice given by the staff of the local health authority.

Care and after care is in the hands of the health visitor and the district nurse. Tuberculosis cases are also followed up by the Chest Physician's own health visitor.
- (i) Home help is provided by suitable persons engaged locally.
- (j) Family Planning clinics are held twice a month at the Out Patients Department of the Aberystwyth General Hospital. These clinics are run by a voluntary organization.

SECTION 47 OF THE NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948
AND NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

No action was required to be taken under the above enactment during the year.

INTERNATIONAL HEALTH

A number of international vaccination certificates of persons residing in the Rural District and proceeding to certain destinations overseas were authenticated in the prescribed manner. This duty is carried out under World Health Regulations No. 2.

PORT HEALTH AUTHORITIES AND RIPARIAN AUTHORITIES

Although the Aberystwyth Rural District Council is a riparian authority, there are no ports in the area which foreign-going ships or coastal shipping enter.

DULYN THOMAS.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Cardiganshire Joint District Councils,
Swyddfa'r Sir,
ABERYSTWYTH.

May, 1961.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR YEAR ENDED
31st DECEMBER, 1960.

1. HOUSING IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The Council continued to make discretionary grants towards the cost of house improvements. A number of standard grants were also approved under the Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958, and the House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.

Sixty-five houses were inspected prior to the submission of detailed plans of the proposed improvements.

Fifty-four inspections were made of works in progress at dwellings where grants had been approved.

Forty-two final inspections were made prior to the works being certified as having been completed to the satisfaction of the Council.

The number of grants which have been approved by the Council since the inception of the improvement grants scheme is three hundred and nine to the value of £88,762.

2. WATER SUPPLIES

Thirty-nine samples of the water supplied from Craig-y-Pistyll were submitted for bacteriological analyses. The results of these analyses were consistently good.

Applications continued to be received from farmers for consent of the Council to the use of water sources on their lands for domestic purposes. The sources were analysed and investigated prior to consent being given.

The numbers of samples taken during the year were as follows:-

Craig-y-pistyll supply	39
Private supplies	49
Village supplies	12

There were extensions to the Trisant Water Supply Scheme and also Llanfihangel-y-Creuddyn.

The arrangement whereby water samples and also milk and ice cream samples were analysed at the laboratory at the Aberystwyth General Hospital came to an end at the end of the year. These samples in future will be sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Carmarthen. Our appreciation is due to Dr. Sudds and her staff for the work which was carried out so efficiently at the Aberystwyth Laboratory for many years.

3. FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1960.

Fifty-two inspections of food premises were made during the year. No prosecutions were instituted. The number of food premises in the area

remains substantially unaltered as follows:-

Grocers and Confectioners	42
Butchers	5
Bakers	3
Cafes and Restaurants	12
Greengrocers	5

There is no educational activity in the area by way of clean food guilds or lectures in food hygiene.

4. FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

The number of premises registered for the sale of ice cream is now sixty-one. One application was refused on the grounds that the premises did not conform with the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1960.

There is still only one licensed slaughterhouse at Esgair, Llangwryfon. Slaughtering of cattle, sheep and pigs and occasionally calves takes place once weekly. This licence has been renewed to the 30th June 1961 so as to enable the owner to carry out the works necessary to make the premises comply with the construction and cruelty regulations made under the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958.

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

Condemned food is disposed of by burial in suitable ground at the Council's refuse tips. No special examination of a stock or a consignment of food was found to be necessary.

5. MEAT INSPECTION

One hundred per cent inspection of animals slaughtered for human consumption was found to be possible. The quality of the meat continued to be excellent and no generalized disease was encountered which would have merited total seizure of the carcass and organs of the affected animals. The number of animals slaughtered is given in the statistical section of the report.

6. MILK AND DAIRIES

The registration of milk distributors continued to be the duty of the Council and the number remained at twenty-one.

The renewal of Dealers' Licences for the sale of designated milks, however, was transferred by regulation to the County Council and in future it will be the duty of the County Council to issue these Licences to Dealers.

7. PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

Sixty-one complaints of statutory nuisances were registered and investigated.

Most of these nuisances were abated by means of preliminary notices.

One statutory notice was served during the year.

8. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The Council was responsible for the cleaning and maintenance of the following ditches and watercourses:-

Borth Leet.
Llanbadarn Fullbrook.
Dolhalog Ditch, Llanbadarn Fawr.
Quebec Ditch, Llanbadarn Fawr.
Llangawsai Ditch.
Brynrodyn and Penygraig Ditches, Borth.
Goginan Sewer Outfall Ditch.
Waunfawr Ditch.
Dolybont Ditch.
Doldau Ditch, Llanbadarn Fawr.

Ninety-two cesspools were cleansed on a rechargeable basis.

Sewage disposal arrangements in the district are inadequate and schemes of sewage disposal are needed in the following villages:

Borth.
Llandre.
Talybont.
Taliesin,
Trerddol.

In fact, preliminary work has been commenced on sewerage schemes to serve the villages of Borth, Talybont and Taliesin. The village of Llandre was excluded from the Bow Street Scheme in 1951 in order to reduce the capital cost of the scheme to a figure which would ensure its approval by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Progress was made on the construction of the Llanbadarn Fawr Sewerage Scheme and the section from Llangawsai to the Vicarage in Llanbadarn Fawr was passed as satisfactory and was accepted by the Council. Connections of private premises can now be made to this section of sewer.

9. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Treatments for the eradication of rats and mice continued to be made at private dwellings, Council owned properties and business premises using Warfarin as bait.

10. REFUSE COLLECTION

The Council's direct labour refuse collection service operated very successfully throughout the year and most of the area now enjoys the service rendered on a weekly, fortnightly or monthly basis.

11. CARAVAN SITES

There are fifteen licensed caravan sites in the area.

The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 came into force during the year and all the sites which have obtained planning permission are to be granted new site licences under the Act. Most of the sites in the district are holiday sites but one or two sites come within a mixed category of holiday and residential.

12. FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The number of factories registered in the district is fifty-seven.

There are three Bakeries in the area.

13. RENT ACT, 1957

One application was received for a Certificate of Disrepair under the Rent Act, 1957. This was granted and later cancelled on completion of the repairs by the landlord.

14. BUILDING BYELAWS

Three hundred and eighteen plans of new buildings and alterations to existing buildings were deposited by building owners and examined under the Building Byelaws.

15. MISCELLANEOUS INSPECTIONS

Five hundred and sixty six miscellaneous inspections were made in connection with the work of the Department.

16. STATISTICAL SECTION OF THE REPORT

The following statistics are given to conform with Article 31 of the Housing Consolidate Regulations, 1925:

- (1) Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation

(2) Number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority	45
(3) Number of representations made to the local authority with a view to	
(a) the serving of notices requiring the execution of works	1
(b) the making of demolition or closing orders	1
(4) The number of Notices served requiring the execution of works	1
(5) Number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	1
(6) Number of demolition or closing orders made	2
(7) Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under Section 11 (3) of the Housing Act, 1936	Nil
(8) Number of houses demolished	Nil

17. The following statistics are given in accordance with the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935:-

Article 27, Section 18

(a) Number of inspections 1,282

(b) Nature of Inspections

Rodent control inspections	42
Milk and Dairies "	25
Drainage "	254
Food Premises "	52
Housing "	76
Nuisance "	91
Water Supplies "	101
Filthy Premises "	1
Factory "	13
Infectious Disease "	5
Miscellaneous "	566
Meat "	56

Article 17, Section 14.

(a) Number of dwellings overcrowded	1
Number of families	3
Number of persons dwelling therein	13

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding	Nil
(c) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved	Nil
Number of persons concerned	Nil

Article 17, Section 4.

(d) Cases in which dwelling houses in respect of which the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding have again become overcrowded	Nil
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18. The Statistics of Meat Inspection.

(a) Number of cows killed	51
Number of calves killed	Nil
Number of sheep and lambs killed	1,040
Number of pigs killed	32
Number of horses killed	Nil
(b) Number of cows inspected	51
Number of calves inspected	Nil
Number of sheep and lambs inspected	1,040
Number of pigs inspected	32
Number of horses inspected	Nil

All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci

(c) Whole carcasses condemned	Nil
(d) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	
Cows	43
Calves	Nil
Sheep and Lambs	1,010
Pigs	3
Horses	Nil
(e) Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci.	
Cows	90% Fluke Disease
Calves	Nil
Sheep and Lambs	90% Fluke Disease
Pigs	Nil
Horses	Nil

Tuberculosis only

(f) Whole carcasses condemned	Nil
(g) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil
(h) Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	Nil

Cysticercosis

(i) Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil
(j) Carcases subjected to treatment by refrigeration	Nil
(k) Generalized and totally condemned	Nil

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959

(1) Inspections during the year.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	15	9	Nil	Nil
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	35	4	1	Nil
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	7	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	57	13	Nil	Nil

(2) Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S. 1.)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	1	-	1	-

Table showing number of dwelling houses supplied from public water mains

Col. A = direct to the houses

Col. B = by means of standpipes.

Parish	Col. A	Col. B	Estimated population of Col. A houses at 2.6 persons a dwelling	Estimated population of Col. B. houses
Borth	450	6	1,170	10
Ceulanmaesmawr	183	20	476	35
Cwmrheidol	71	-	184	-
Geneurglyn	159	3	413	8
Llanafan	40	7	108	18
Llanbadarn Fawr	339	30	858	45
Llanbadarn Lower	145	15	377	20
Llanbadarn Upper	60	4	156	4
Llancynfelin	138	39	362	76
Llanddeiniol	12	-	31	-
Llanfihangel Lower	62	17	162	23
Llanfihangel Upper	92	11	239	23
Llangorwen	69	-	179	-
Llangwryfon	5	1	8	2
Llanilar	74	18	192	28
Llanrhystyd Haminiog	69	6	179	10
Llanrhystyd Mefenydd	28	5	73	7
Llanychaiarn	84	3	218	5
Melindwr	82	26	213	57
Parcel Canol	72	4	187	7
Scyborycoed	75	-	195	-
Tirymynach	171	10	444	28
Trefeurig	84	24	218	38
Vaenor Upper	107	9	278	22
TOTAL	2,671	258	6,920	466

PART VIII OF THE ACT (Outwork)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in un-wholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing) making etc. apparel) Cleaning &) washing	1	-	-	-	-	-
Household linen	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lace, lace curtains and nets.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Curtains & furniture hangings	-	-	-	-	-	-
Furniture & upholstery	-	-	-	-	-	-
Electro-plate	-	-	-	-	-	-
File making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brass & brass articles	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fur pulling	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron & Steel cables & chains	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cart gear	-	-	-	-	-	-
Iron & Steel anchors & grapnels	-	-	-	-	-	-
Locks, latches & keys	-	-	-	-	-	-
Umbrellas, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Artificial flowers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nets, other than wire nets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tents	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sacks	-	-	-	-	-	-
Racquet & tennis balls	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paper bags	-	-	-	-	-	-
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	-	-	-	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT (Outwork) (Continued)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Brush making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pea picking	-	-	-	-	-	-
Feather sorting	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carding, etc. of buttons, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stuffed toys	-	-	-	-	-	-
Basket making	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chocolates and sweetmeats	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cosaques, Christmas stockings, etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Textile weaving	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lampshades	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	-	-	-	-	-

D.G. BOWEN, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

